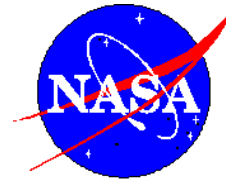


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Women of Wallops Expanding Their Reach

Take Our Daughters to Work Day will be expanding into space during the next space shuttle mission thanks to the efforts of the Women of Wallops.

The Women of Wallops Federal Women's Program at the Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Va., annually holds a variety of activities, as part of the national event, for daughters of employees with NASA, the U.S. Navy and NOAA.

Among the activities from the April 2001 daughter's day, students toured the Space Experiment Module (SEM) facility and prepared vials of wildflower seeds as a SEM opportunity. The experiment is flying on the STS-108 mission as part of SEM-15.

The purpose of the experiment is to determine the effects of microgravity and space travel on wildflower seeds. Students also are keeping a control group on Earth.

After the return of the space shuttle Endeavor, the experiment "Countdown to Wildflowers" will be returned to Wallops. Both sets of seeds will then be planted to compare their germination rates, as well as compare their plants, flowers and seeds.

The experiment may be de-integrated as an activity for Daughter's Day in 2002.

More information can be found on the experiment at
<http://www.wff.nasa.gov/~FWP/news/todtwd2001/ontheshuttle.html>

A full description of all the SEM experiments and others flying on the shuttle Endeavor through the Shuttle Small Payloads Project can be found at
<http://www.wfff.nasa.gov>

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